

JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Nursing and Health Sciences

www.jsu.edu/depart/nursing

1-800-231-5291

THE STEP PROGRAM

The STEP (Strategic Teaching for Enhanced Professional Preparation) program is an online baccalaureate completion program for students currently licensed as Registered Nurses. STEP courses are made available through the use of Internet and clinical projects. The nursing sequence can be completed in one year of study once all prerequisite and general studies course requirements are completed.

Requirements for admission to the STEP program include the following:

- Admission to Jacksonville State University with all academic transcripts on file
- Completion of all prerequisite and general studies coursework with a grade “C” or better
- Evidence of successful completion of an accredited diploma or associate degree nursing program
- Unencumbered current registered nurse license
- Minimum 2.5 GPA on prerequisite courses

Application Deadlines for admission to the STEP Program:

- Fall Semester- Deadline is August 1st
- Spring Semester- Deadline is December 1st
- Summer Semester- Deadline is April 1st

Prerequisite and General Studies Course Requirements*

Written Composition (6 SH Required)

| | | |
|--------|---------------------|------|
| EH 101 | English Composition | 3 SH |
| EH 102 | English Composition | 3 SH |

Humanities and Fine Arts (12 SH Required)

| | | |
|----|---|------|
| EH | Literature I | 3 SH |
| | Fine Arts Elective | 3 SH |
| | Literature II, Humanities, or Fine Arts | 3 SH |
| | Humanities or Fine Arts | 3 SH |

Students must complete one course (3 SH) in literature and must have a 6 SH sequence (2 courses) either in literature or history.

Natural Sciences and Mathematics (11 SH Required)

| | | |
|------------|----------------------------|------|
| BY 101/103 | Introductory Biology I/Lab | 4 SH |
| CY 105/107 | General Chemistry I/Lab | 4 SH |
| MS 112 | Pre-calculus Algebra | 3 SH |

History, Social, and Behavioral Sciences (12 SH Required)

| | | |
|---------|---|------|
| PSY 201 | Principles of Psychology | 3 SH |
| HY | History I | 3 SH |
| | History II, Social Science, or Behavioral Science | 3 SH |
| | Social Science or Behavioral Science | 3 SH |

Students must complete one course (3 SH) in history and must have a 6 SH sequence (2 courses) either in history or literature.

Preprofessional, Major, and Elective Courses (21 SH Required)

| | | |
|--------|--|------|
| BY 263 | Human Anatomy & Physiology I | 4 SH |
| BY 264 | Human Anatomy & Physiology II | 4 SH |
| BY 283 | Microbiology | 4 SH |
| | Preprofessional, Major, and Elective Courses | 9 SH |

The Alabama General Studies Articulation Agreement provides for alternatives in some prerequisite courses. Contact a JSU College of Nursing and Health Sciences advisor for specific details. See contact information on the reverse side of this sheet.

STEP Program Course Sequence*

New Curriculum (Starting Spring 2007)

*STEP recognizes the past academic and experiential knowledge of the Registered Nurse. RNs are awarded 35 hours of *Advanced Placement Credit* after completion of first semester course work.

Semester 1

| | | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|------|
| NU 345 | Communication of Ethical Issues | 3 SH |
| NU 352 | Health Assessment Across the Lifespan | 3 SH |
| NU 365 | Pharmacology for Practicing Nurses | 4 SH |

Semester 2

| | | |
|--------|--------------------------------------|------|
| NU 350 | Professional Roles and Issues | 5 SH |
| NU 400 | Research/Outcomes Management | 2 SH |
| NU 422 | Nursing Leadership and Health Policy | 3 SH |

Semester 3

| | | |
|--------|------------------------------|------|
| NU | Elective | 3 SH |
| NU | Elective | 3 SH |
| NU 456 | Population Based Health Care | 6 SH |

For further information about the STEP program, visit our website at <http://www.jsu.edu/depart/nursing/STEP/index.html>.

For specific advisement regarding prerequisite requirements or any other questions you have about the STEP program, please contact Dr. Phyllis Waits, RN, MSN, EdD, Director of STEP Program, at (256) 782-5423, or (800) 231-5291, or email at pwaits@jsu.edu. STEP program information is also available by contacting Ms. Tammy Johnson, BS, MPA, Director of Students Services for the STEP and Master's Program, at (256) 782-8489 or (800) 231-5291, or email at tjohnson@jsu.edu.

RN-BSN-MSN Option

The RN-BSN-MSN option allows students to begin their graduate studies while earning the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. At the time the RN is completing the baccalaureate program of study (STEP), course work in the master's program can also be completed. By enrolling in the RN-BSN-MSN Option, an RN can earn both a BSN and MSN with 6 fewer total hours than by completing the BSN and MSN programs separately. The MSN degree can open the door to many new and exciting opportunities in your nursing career. If this option interests you, please contact Ms. Tammy Johnson, BS, MPA, Director of Students Services for the STEP and Master's Program, at (256) 782-8489 or (800) 231-5291, or email at tjohnson@jsu.edu.